

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends. — James Monroe

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Planning for Peace Is Present Problem

Immediate Necessity Will Be in Preventing Famine and Disease in Many Lands

WHAT CAN THIS NATION DO?

Plans Are Being Studied to Establish Peace Machinery and to Restore Living Standards

(In connection with this article see editorial, "Planning for Peace.")

On Armistice Day, Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles delivered an important address on the problems of war and peace. He did not stop, as many speakers do, with an appeal for America to use its full industrial and military strength in defense of democracy. He was not thinking about war alone. He said that it was possible to win a war and then lose the peace. He argued that we must understand the problems which will follow the war and that America should be prepared to do her part in establishing conditions which will make for peace and security.

Mr. Welles was interested in the kind of world organization which may be formed when the war is over; in something like a League of Nations. Such an organization of nations may or may not be established. At any rate, the suggestion raises an important issue; an issue which sometime must be met.

Feeding Europe

More immediate and pressing problems will, however, present themselves as soon as the war is over. One is the problem of famine and starvation. We do not know very much about what is now happening to the people of Europe. It is hard for neutral observers to get into the conquered countries and a rigid censorship prevents their describing all that they see. But such glimpses as we get show that even in unoccupied France, which is in a better condition than many sections of Europe, the people are hungry; they are terribly underfed; children are dying at a rate not witnessed during recent times. In Poland and throughout much of Central Europe, people are undoubtedly dying of starvation. The food situation is bad enough in England and Germany, but these strong nations are much better off than the conquered territories and regions over which armies are marching.

This situation will grow worse rather than better. If Germany is defeated, it will probably be because her people are brought to the verge of starvation. And the Germans will not starve so long as there is food in the conquered countries. The end of the war is likely, therefore, to find whole populations either starving or so underfed as to be weak and disease-ridden.

The first problem after the war (Concluded on page 6)



How can the ways of peace be restored to the world?

Planning for Peace

By Walter E. Myer

You cannot pick up a newspaper today without reading of wars and rumors of war. Most of the so-called civilized nations are locked in a death grapple. In our own country we are feverishly preparing for war, planning for war. I do not for a moment criticize that effort. Most people, whether they are isolationists or interventionists, agree that our nation must be ready for any eventuality; that we must be so strong and well prepared for war as to be invincible. But let us remind ourselves that war alone, victory alone, does not create a better, safer world. At best it sweeps obstacles aside and gives us the opportunity to establish conditions which make for lasting peace and security.

Such conditions do not come about as a matter of course. Wars have been won before by people who longed for peace, and yet the forces making for destruction have not been quieted. The same thing may happen again—will happen again unless those who love peace and order figure out in advance what is needed to restore peace on a lasting basis. We must plan for peace as well as for war.

We cannot wait to do this until the war is over, for then it may be too late. The work of reconstruction will not be simple or easy. It will be heartbreakingly complex and difficult. I have just read a very challenging book, *The World's Iron Age*, in which the author, William Henry Chamberlin, contends that we are witnessing today the swift decline of civilization. This decline, he says, was under way before the war started. Europe was already retracing the steps by which it had risen to higher levels of civilization. Standards of living everywhere were falling. It was becoming harder for people to travel from one country to another, or to carry on trade across national frontiers. Mutual confidence was receding. Hope in the future was growing dim. The descent toward a dark age is, of course, becoming more steep and rapid during the months and years of almost universal war.

This downward movement will not, necessarily, cease when the firing does. By that time the chaos and confusion in the war-torn lands will be indescribable. If the people and nations of the world are set again on the road to security, peace, and higher standards of living, it will be because well-informed, thoughtful men and women think the thing through in advance, locate the ills which need to be corrected, and are ready, when the opportunity comes, to provide measures which are healing and truly reconstructive.

You, the readers of this paper and its associated publications, can play an important part in planning for peace and stability in our own country and in the world. You form a very considerable section of the youth of America. You can have a large part in moulding the opinion of this, the most influential of nations. You cannot play your part by jumping (Concluded on page 5)

Strike Issue Hotly Debated in Congress

Legislators Exert Strong Pressure on Roosevelt to Curb Industrial Disputes

VARIOUS PROPOSALS URGED

Compulsory Arbitration Favored by Many; Others Think Present Machinery Sufficient

The seriousness of the labor situation was called dramatically to the attention of the American people last week as the House of Representatives prepared to vote on repeal of certain provisions of the Neutrality Act. Many members of Congress at the last minute changed their votes on this important issue of foreign policy as a protest against the failure of the Roosevelt administration to take a stronger stand against strikes in defense industries.

As a further protest, members of the important Rules Committee of the House declared that they would block all other administration measures until action was taken to deal with the labor situation. The President himself recognized the seriousness of the problem by pledging, in a letter to Speaker Rayburn, to keep the coal mines open. "The government proposes to see this thing through," he wrote, as a showdown approached in the captive coal mines controversy.

Showdown Approaching

It was apparent last week that decisions of vital importance could not be long delayed in dealing with labor problems and disputes in defense industries. Not only was Congress clamoring for immediate action, in the form of legislation which would outlaw strikes, but the whole machinery of the federal government for settling industrial disputes was being challenged. The National Defense Mediation Board suffered a severe blow when its two CIO members, Philip Murray and Thomas Kennedy, resigned after the board had rejected, by a vote of nine to two, the demands of the United Mine Workers for a closed shop in the captive mines of the steel companies (see last week's issue of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER).

Industrial disputes plagued the administration from still other quarters. A general strike of railroad workers loomed as the unions rejected the proposals for wage increases advanced by a fact-finding commission appointed by the President. Troubles were brewing in several other industries. The whole labor front was being deeply affected by the outcome in the coal dispute. The entire nation, therefore, is anxiously awaiting the decisions which will be made in the immediate future. They are likely to determine the relations which are to prevail among labor, employers, and the government throughout the period of national emergency.

(Concluded on page 7)

GEM DEFENSE PHOTO
A power riveter speeds production of B-26 bombers

The Week in Defense

The following information is based on material furnished by the Office of Government Reports.

President Roosevelt expressed his views on controlling prices by raising taxes in a letter last week to Representative Robert L. Doughton, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. "If we are to prevent a further sharp increase in the cost of living and in the cost of the defense program itself," wrote the President, "we must take immediate steps to absorb a large amount of purchasing power through additional taxes." Mr. Roosevelt advised that the taxes should take up money which otherwise would be spent on civilian goods.

Launching ceremonies have always been reserved for surface vessels, but for the first time they have been staged to give an appropriate send-off to an airplane. At the Glenn L. Martin plant in Baltimore, the Navy's new 67-ton, four-engine patrol bomber was christened *Mars*, and given full honors. The battleship of the air, according to the Navy Department, is capable of carrying a bomb load to Europe and returning non-stop.

Ten million bushels of corn will be turned into alcohol for the manufacture of smokeless powder. The War Department arranged for the supply of grain through the Commodity Credit Corporation, a division of the Department of Agriculture.

OPM's Labor Division has announced that between June 1, 1940, and October 1, 1941, there were 123 strikes "of significance to defense." In these stoppages, about 2,349,600 man-days of work were lost by a total of 225,000 employees. During the same period, according to the Department of Labor, 24,284,981 man-days were lost through strikes in all American industry.

Both industry and agriculture make use of magnesium in its various forms. The metal is employed in alloys, and it is also required in making magnesium fertilizers, which stimulate plant growth. According to the Department of Agriculture, magnesium fertilizers were once obtained in quantity from Germany, but now those exports are ended. Today, however, there are several firms extracting the metallic sub-

stance from ocean water, and selling it to agricultural and industrial users.

Cellophane has been added to the list of products which the defense program has pushed aside. OPM has ruled that no more cellophane may be used to wrap cosmetics, razor blades, and soap, although it is still available for cigarettes and food products. The chemicals from which the transparent wrapping material is made are essential in the production of explosives, smoke screens, and other military supplies.

Police in 260 cities are to receive training in civilian defense work under the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The session in each city will last six days. Similar schools, for police chiefs and other police executives, are going on in 55 FBI headquarter cities.

The third battleship to be launched in 1941 went down the ways on November 21 at Newport News, Virginia. It was the 35,000-ton *Indiana*, whose keel was laid two years ago this month. The vessel is 680 feet long, and, according to the Navy Department's announcement, the ship is designed to furnish a speed of more than 27 knots.

Defense is now costing the nation an average of \$1,175,000,000 a month. Donald Nelson, OPM priorities director, stated not long ago, however, that "if we are to win this struggle with reasonable speed and certainty, we shall find ourselves spending in the neighborhood of \$3,500,000,000 a month." It will cost this amount to maintain the increased production schedules.

Unemployment declined to 3,900,000 by mid-October, according to the WPA's most recent survey of labor conditions. This amounted to a reduction of 600,000 from the total which was marked up in September.

Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox has announced that a naval base is being established at Iceland. It will serve operating units of the Atlantic fleet.

Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes, already a man of many jobs, has taken on another one. He has been petroleum coordinator for national defense, and now, by order of the President, he becomes coordinator of solid fuels—chiefly coal.

Sketches of Labor Leaders

JOHN L. LEWIS has for years been one of the most controversial figures in American life. Age has not dimmed his fire, and at 61 he still is capable of making vigorous decisions, as the recent coal mine dispute proves. His eyes, overshadowed by enormously shaggy brows, can still glare fiercely as he shakes his massive head and thunderously drives home an argument, punctuating it with thrusts of his inevitable, huge cigar.

Lewis is the son of a Welsh immigrant coal miner. He entered the mines at the age of 12, educated himself, and by his vigorous work in the labor movement rose to the presidency of the United Mine Workers in 1919. As the apostle of industrial unionism, he fought hard and long, but in vain, to get the American Federation of Labor to organize the great mass of unskilled workers. Finally, in 1935, he led a revolt of his UMW and seven other AFL unions to form the Committee for Industrial Organization (now called the Congress of Industrial Organizations) which today rivals the parent organization in size and power.

As president of the CIO Lewis gained wide attention for his aggressive tactics in organizing the steel, coal, and automobile industries. He took an active part in politics, strongly supporting Roosevelt in 1936 and then resigning his post when labor refused to follow his switch to Willkie in 1940. Today he is a bitter critic of the Roosevelt foreign policy.



Lewis

WEN SAMUEL GOMPERS died in 1924, the mantle of American Federation of Labor leadership that he had worn for 37 years fell on the shoulders of William Green, a former coal miner of Coshocton, Ohio. From that time to this Green has been at the helm of America's greatest organization of unions of workers joined together along craft lines.

As a young man William Green hoped to become a Baptist minister, but poverty forced him at 16 into the Coshocton mines. In this small hill town of central Ohio the United Mine Workers of America was the center around which revolved the economic and social life of the miners. Early in his career Green showed an aptitude for inner union politics, a knack that eventually carried him to the presidency of the Ohio miners' organization and into the state senate as Democratic floor leader. By 1914 he had risen to the executive council of the AFL.

Green's one-time friendship with John L. Lewis sprang from common interests in the Mine Workers and the fact that Green nominated Lewis to the AFL presidency in 1921 against the venerable Gompers. Although Lewis lost, he reciprocated by throwing the miners' votes behind Green for the AFL leadership in 1924.

WILLIAM H. DAVIS hates force. That is one reason why this highly skillful labor expert is chairman of the National Defense Mediation Board, for he loves to help disputing employers and workers solve their own problems. He believes that honest good will and cooperation can solve any dispute. Above all else he wishes to avoid the necessity of compulsory labor legislation.

Davis has long since demonstrated his fitness as a mediator. His brilliant mind is balanced by a calm, unruffled nature and a keen sense of humor which make men instinctively like him. "He has a way of simplifying the issues, sprinkling them with wisdom, and cooling them off with patience," says one observer, and that pretty well sums up the secret of Davis' success.

A striking example of Davis' methods is the Allis-Chalmers strike which he settled in less than two days after it had resisted for 75 days the efforts of all other federal agencies to handle it successfully. More recently he played a prominent role as chairman of the 11-man panel which considered the CIO demand for a union shop in the "captive" coal mines. He voted with the majority in refusing to recommend the closed shop in that case.

PHILIP MURRAY, president of the CIO, attended his first union meeting with his Scottish father at the age of six, and entered the mines at 10. When his family migrated to western Pennsylvania in 1902, he again turned to the mines. For questioning the weighmaster's totals of his output he was discharged, and the Murray family evicted from their company-owned house. From that moment his career as a labor leader began.

Through correspondence courses and home study Murray secured an education. He became an American citizen, and the local miners elected him president of their union. By 1919 he had risen to the vice-presidency of the United Mine Workers of America, an office which he still holds, together with the presidency of the CIO.

Murray is trusted for his fairness by both labor and capital. His abilities as negotiator were early recognized by President Wilson, who made him a member of the War Labor Board. Harding appointed him to settle a serious outbreak in West Virginia in 1921, and under Franklin Roosevelt Murray served on the NRA Labor and Industry Advisory Board.

Philip Murray was John L. Lewis' chief lieutenant in organizing the CIO. As head of the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee he carried out "one of the most elaborate, comprehensive, and successful organizing campaigns in the history of unionism."

DANIEL J. TOBIN, who is short and squat, was once asked just how tall he was. "Only five feet eight," he said. "I had to work when I was young—didn't get time to grow." Whatever Tobin missed in stature, however, has been made up in influence as the president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen, and Helpers, a union whose members now deal with motors and gasoline, rather than horses and hay.

Tobin was born in Ireland in 1875, but migrated to Cambridge, Massachusetts, at the age of 14, where he continued his education in night school. At 32 he became "top man" of the Teamsters and a power in the American Federation of Labor. For 11 years he served as Federation treasurer. Since 1933 he has sat on the executive council, the all-powerful governing body of the AFL.

When the historic split between the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the American Federation of Labor took place in 1937, Tobin, at the request of President Roosevelt, attempted to restore harmony to the ranks of organized labor. In spite of his friendship with both Green and Lewis, he failed. The CIO and AFL could not agree on terms, and went their separate ways.



Davis



Tobin

Seeing South America . . . XI

HAVE said that the workers of Chile are very poor. But just how poor are they? It is hard to determine a thing like that with accuracy. For example, as we were driving through the country, we came upon a number of men who were working on the road and asked them what they were getting. They told us that they received from 15 to 20 pesos a day. Translating that sum into our money, we have 50 to 70 cents, or (provided they work every day in the month) around \$13 to \$18 a month. Workers in Santiago get more than that; probably \$21 to \$25 a month. Teachers have salaries of from \$40 to \$50 a month, and a university professor may get \$70 a month.

As soon as an American gets hold of facts like that, he is likely to attempt to figure out how much those sums of money would buy in the United States. What could a family buy for \$25?

But that is not the way to go at it. For these people do not spend their money in the United States; they spend it in Chile. So you go to the stores and see what prices are down there. You find out that one must pay 20 cents a pound for fresh meat; 30 cents a dozen for eggs; 40 cents a pound for butter; five cents a quart for milk. These prices are not equal to those which prevail in the United States, but they are pretty high. You conclude that the Chilean worker cannot buy much meat, eggs, butter, or milk, and you assume that he has very little to eat.

But that isn't the whole story. The Chilean family cannot get much, it is true, of that kind of food. I have read, for example, that the average family in Chile uses only a seventh as much milk as does a family in the United States, and that is probably true. But a poor Chilean family lives very largely on potatoes, rice, beans, and soup. He can get potatoes for one and a half cents a pound, and beans or rice for five cents a pound. Probably the family can obtain enough of these things so as not to be hungry, but the diet is not well balanced. Many of the people do not

seem to be well nourished. A large proportion of the children look as if they were underfed and the infant mortality rates are very high. At the same time, there is not actual destitution.

A large part of all that the Chileans get goes for rent. For a house with a large bedroom, a dining room, kitchen, and bath, one would probably have to pay \$14 a month, or if it was a government-built house, \$10. If the head of the family made only \$20 to \$25 a month, he would have to take something smaller than this. He could probably get a house of perhaps two rooms for \$5 a month, but that would be another case of overcrowding; of living under unsanitary conditions.

Fuel is not cheap. The average family is likely to spend \$3.50 a month for gas, and electricity to serve eight people will cost about \$1.20 a month. One can, however, ride quite cheaply on the streetcars, the fare being only one cent. Taxi fare for a short ride is a dime.

One can readily see by these figures that the workers in Chile have a low standard of living. After they pay for rent, food, and the roughest kind of clothing, they have very little left—little for luxuries, for medicine, or for education. The children go to school at least for a few years. They learn to read and write, but below the middle class there are very few children in high school. Most of those who attend high school are from the wealthier families. Therefore, the children of the poor do not have a good chance to lift themselves to better vocations than those followed by their fathers. There is little opportunity for them to rise to higher standards of living.

People and Politics

The working people with whom we talked did not appear to be at all dull. They were intelligent, and many of them seemed to be reasonably well informed. They are taking an increasingly active interest in politics, and the parties which represent them, or which claim to do so, have at present a majority in the Chilean parliament. The President of Chile, Pedro Aguirre Cerda, is the leader of those who claim to speak for the working classes, and he is very popular with them. As I

wrote this, however, I read that President Cerda has discontinued his duties, at least temporarily, on account of ill health. I am sure that thousands of the poorer people of Chile will hope that his absence from office will be brief.

There is a difference of opinion in Chile as to how much President Cerda has done for the common people. His supporters are enthusiastic about his program. He has a majority in the Chilean parliament for most of the legislation which he demands, and he has undoubtedly done something for the

poorer classes. The government has enacted a minimum-wage and maximum-hour law. The number of hours to be worked, in the occupations which are covered, are eight, and the wages are established at \$25 to \$28 a month with workers under 18 getting \$14 a month.

The slums in certain sections have been cleared away, and apartments have been built by the government to rent at a lower rate than can be had in privately owned buildings. A few large apartment houses have already been constructed, and the people down there seem quite proud of them. But of course this is only a drop in the bucket compared with the needs.

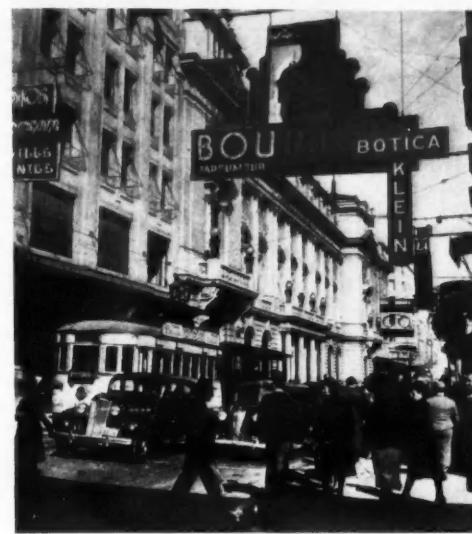
Social security legislation has been enacted—legislation similar to that which we have in this country. A number of humane laws have been passed. For example, if the mother of a young child works in a factory, the factory must supply a nursery in which the child is cared for and medical attention is given to it without charge to the mother.

An attempt has been made to provide that young people must go to school until they reach the age of 16, but this law has not yet been passed. Everyone in Chile is obliged to have a medical examination twice a year, and those with contagious diseases are treated. Sanitary squads are sent around in the poorer sections, fumigating houses which need it, cleaning up those that are dirty, and teaching people how to care for their houses, how to select and cook food.

An interesting experiment is being conducted in the treatment of criminals. A criminal colony has been established in southern Chile. Those who have been convicted of crimes are sent down there and may be accompanied by their families. They are paid wages for their work, and live normal lives, except that they do not have freedom to leave the colony. If this experiment seems to work well, it is the plan to adopt it more extensively throughout the country.

These measures represent a start, even though not a very big one, toward improving the conditions of life. Some of the people are impatient because more has not been done. They accuse President Cerda of not having their interests at heart. But it must be remembered that he works under difficulties. It is hard for the Chilean government to get money with which to carry on the work of housing, of education, of medical care, and other social services.

Formerly the government got its money by placing heavy taxes upon



JACOBS FROM THREE LIONS
Looking down Ahumada Street in Santiago

foreign corporations, and particularly upon the copper and nitrate industries. These industries are now near collapse, and the government must resort to taxation of other interests. It must try to get money by taxing the rich landowners, and yet their influence is so great that it is hard to raise enough money to meet governmental needs.

—WALTER E. MYER.

♦ SMILES ♦

Diner: "Waiter, take this chicken away. It is actually so tough it seems to be made out of stone."

Waiter: "Nothing strange about that, sir. It's a Plymouth Rock."

—PATHFINDER

Wife (pointing out high-priced hat in shop): "Isn't that a duck of a hat?"

Husband: "Yes, but I prefer a duck with a smaller bill."

—LABOR



"The first thing you do is tear up all morning mail. Mr. Boyle likes to put it together again for practice."

KAUNUS IN SATURDAY EVENING POST

"No, madam," said the clerk behind the drugstore soda fountain, "I'm not a pharmacist; I'm a fizzician."

—WALL STREET JOURNAL

"Mother," asked the little girl out of a sudden silence, "when will I be old enough to wear the kind of shoes that kill you?"

—CAPPER'S WEEKLY

English newspapers are attempting to operate with press censorship such as described in this story from the *Newspaper World of London*:

"Once upon a time there was a Minister of Information carrier pigeon. And as it was flying leisurely to its destination it was jostled by a second pigeon which bawled, 'Get a move on. I've got the denial!'

Hotel Manager: "Do you want the porter to call you?"

Guest: "No, thanks. I awake every morning at seven."

Manager: "Well, then, do you mind calling the porter?" —BOYS' LIFE



Plaza Libertad in Santiago

The Week at Home

The Letter

Every seat, every inch of standing room in the galleries was packed. Virtually every member was present on the crowded floor. The air was filled with tense excitement, for the last dramatic hours of debate on amendments to the Neutrality Act were drawing to a close in the House of Representatives.

A letter was read, a wild ovation filled the crowded chamber, and the vote was taken. By a narrow margin of 18 votes the legal fiction of United States neutrality was ended.

Had it not been for tremendous last-minute pressure from administration sources, of which President Roosevelt's letter to Speaker Rayburn was the highlight, the House might well have rejected the repeal measure. Strong and unexpected

share in the total funds collected in the community.

People are giving in good measure this year, and a number of cities have reported that quotas are being raised without difficulty. The need for funds, of course, is as great as ever, despite the rising employment brought about by the defense program. For the community chests reach out to help unemployables, the physically handicapped, and many others to whom improvement in the nation's economic health brings no gains. They are greatly dependent on the "mobilization for human needs."

Delayed Price Control

Passage of an important bill through Congress is usually a long-drawn-out process, and the case of the much-heralded price control bill is no exception. Last August this bill began its faltering journey in the House Banking and Currency Committee, headed by Henry B. Steagall; last week it was still there.

For three months the committee held lengthy hearings on the bill, amassing one and a half million words of testimony from 38 witnesses. Chief witness was Price Administrator Leon Henderson, who advocated a form of "selective control" on prices by which each commodity would be treated individually — some would be given ceilings, others not. In opposition to such a plan Bernard M. Baruch endorsed "over-all control," which would place ceilings on everything, farm products and wages as well as industrial goods.

On November 1 the committee approved a makeshift form of the bill patterned after the Henderson plan, and it was thought that the measure was ready to go before the House. But the administration, which originally had supported such a control measure, suddenly shifted ground last week, and indicated in White House conferences that it now leaned to over-all control. Since this would require revision of the bill in committee again, it seemed likely that price control would continue to linger.

Consumer Pledge

"As a consumer, in the total defense of democracy, I will do my part to make my home, my community,



HISTORIC MOMENT. Speaker Rayburn affixes his signature to the House-approved bill which sounds the death knell of the Neutrality Act.

my country ready, efficient, and strong. I will buy carefully. I will take good care of the things I have. I will waste nothing."

This is the Consumer's Pledge for Total Defense, sponsored by the Office of Price Administration under direction of Associate Administrator Harriet Elliott. It is now being offered to America's 30,000,000 families as a means of aiding national defense; Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt has led the way by becoming the first signer. The Boy Scouts, retail merchants, church groups, trade unions, and clubs are cooperating in making the pledge available to everyone.

This pledge is only one of the many guns which are being unlimbered in the War Against Waste Campaign. The President recently urged that we "halt the waste and unnecessary use of critical materials required for defense." Mayor La Guardia also has called for national saving, pointing out that "in one day we waste enough food in the average city of 100,000 . . . to feed a European city of 50,000 or more. Waste of food when there is such a terrible need for it abroad is criminal."

Likewise, national drives under sponsorship of various private groups are under way to encourage the saving and selling of all kinds of scrap materials, particularly paper, rubber, iron, aluminum, copper, lead, cotton,

and wool. Intensification of such drives is likely to occur in the future.

The Perfect Diplomat

One of the clearest exponents of the Roosevelt foreign policy is Sumner Welles, under-secretary of state (see article on page 1). In every way this man seems to fit the picture of the "perfect diplomat." He possesses an acute mind, a firm character, and a cool, reserved dignity which is almost forbidding. He is a accomplished linguist, but is so uncommunicative that it is said he "can hold his tongue in English, Spanish, French, Italian, and German." His personal appearance is impeccable, from his crisp white mustache to the cane which he carries with the utmost aplomb.



Sumner Welles

Welles has had the advantage of a splendid education at exclusive Groton and at Harvard. He began his diplomatic career as secretary to the Tokyo embassy, but he soon became convinced that America's chief interest lay in the Western Hemisphere, and asked to be transferred to Buenos Aires. There he mastered Spanish and so familiarized himself with inter-American problems that he eventually became chief of the Latin American Affairs Division of the State Department. Now, at the age of 49, he is playing a vital role as undersecretary of state.

In the front line of civilian defense
JENSEN IN CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

opposition had developed among Democratic members who bear a keen dislike for the administration's labor policies. Joining forces with antiwar and noninterventionist Republicans, they voiced their refusal to approve the measure so long as the defense effort could be hamstrung by defense strikes.

Then, after eight hours of excited debate, came the message, reaffirming the urgent necessity for passage of the bill. Like oil on troubled waters, it pledged the government to quell labor disturbances and keep defense production moving. This eleventh-hour assurance was all the House needed, and the measure squeaked through—212 to 194.

Community Chests

One out of every five people in the United States contributes each year to a community chest. The "mobilization for human needs," as the annual drive is called, goes on in about 600 towns and cities throughout the nation. Last year's campaign realized over \$90,000,000, and the goal this year is about \$95,000,000.

A majority of the community chest drives are conducted in the fall, chiefly during November, although a few are staged later in the winter and in the spring. The chest method of giving appeals to many people because they have the assurance that the funds are honestly and economically administered. Moreover, it enables them to give in one lump sum to a number of organizations which



FIRST LADY SIGNS UP. The White House became the first American home formally pledged to the government's campaign to save materials for defense through consumer conservation. Mrs. Roosevelt and Mrs. Henrietta Nesbitt took the "consumer's pledge for total defense" drafted by Miss Harriet Elliott (right) of OPA.

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The Week Abroad

Japan Makes Ready

Though a special Japanese envoy is now in Washington in an effort to reach a settlement with the United States, the government in Tokyo is proceeding with emergency measures to prepare the country for a showdown. Some of the more conservative newspapers in the Japanese capital are holding their fire while awaiting the outcome of the negotiations. But most of the press continues to carry stridently worded editorials in which the United States is pictured as a "heartless aggressor" impotent to crush "Japan's reasonable aspirations."

By way of preparing for a possible crisis, the Tojo cabinet has called upon the parliament to approve a special budget and emergency tax measures. Men 20 to 30 years old who were previously exempted from military service because of physical condition are now to be mobilized. And special air-raid precautions are being provided for Tokyo, Kyoto, Yokohama, and other large cities.

As signs of the impending storm, the Japanese point to the fact that the United States has withdrawn its marines from China and to the further fact that Britain has recently transferred warships to the Far East.

Food for China

Famine is a familiar scourge in China, but the present food crisis is an exceedingly desperate one. The rice crop is below prewar years, and it is feared that unless the Chungking government soon obtains adequate food supplies, its armies can save neither themselves nor Free China from collapse.

The struggle for food is centered in the Chengtu plain in the province of Szechwan. This plain in China's interior is one of the most fertile



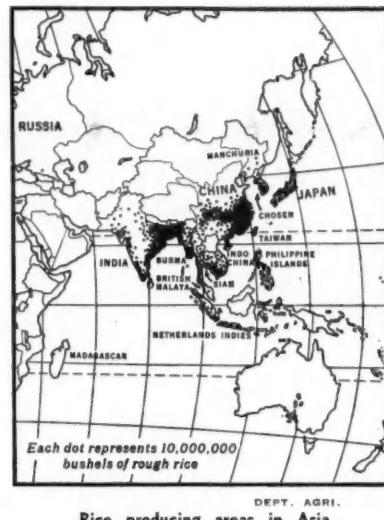
Heading whichever way the wind blows
BISHOP IN ST. LOUIS STAR-TIMES

farm regions in the world, producing large quantities of rice, wheat, corn, and sweet potatoes, in addition to other foodstuffs.

Part of the food shortage can be traced to hoarding by the landholding classes, but at the bottom of the problem is the system of land tenancy existing on the Chengtu plain. Fifty-six per cent of the farms are worked by tenants and only 20 per cent are owned outright by the small farmers. Much of the land rent is paid in rice.

But in addition to this—because the value of the Chinese dollar has fallen sharply—creditors are trying to force the farmers to pay their

debts in farm products instead of depreciated currency. At the same time, prices of metal tools have risen, compelling the farmers to work longer hours and produce less with inferior equipment. Consequently, many of the peasants are on the verge of starvation.



Shipping Losses

London stopped giving figures on shipping losses some months ago. But last week Prime Minister Churchill broke the government's silence to reveal a favorable turn for the anti-Axis powers in the Battle of the Atlantic. In the four months ending with October, Churchill disclosed, losses averaged but 180,000 tons, a reduction of two-thirds from the previous four months. With American and British shipyards now working at top speed, it is believed that shortly new construction will outpace sinkings, provided the Atlantic losses are kept at their present level.

Probably the major reason for the improved situation is that American warships now not only patrol the sea lanes but actually engage in convoy work. This has, in turn, enabled the British to divert some of their fleet units to the Mediterranean where they have been preying upon Axis convoys to North Africa. Recently, two especially successful attacks were carried out by the British on Italian convoys which suffered heavy losses. In the last four months, in fact, the British have sent more Axis ships to the bottom than they themselves have lost.

Eastern Front

The conviction is growing among military observers that a lull is about to set in on the northern and central fronts of Russia. For several weeks now the Germans have failed to make any appreciable gains anywhere except in the Crimea. Even Nazi propaganda spokesmen, who are normally unrestrained in their claims, no longer speak of "slashing offensives" moving irresistibly against the "defeated foe." Instead, they concede that at best their forces are advancing in some sectors "yard by yard" against the most stubborn resistance.

Some military experts go so far as to say that no major operations will be resumed on the Moscow front until spring. And by then, it is said, the Russian armies will have been reorganized sufficiently to make further

German advances no less costly than the advances made up to now.

Reports reaching the British Ministry of Economic Warfare from Kuibyshev, the auxiliary Soviet capital, strike an uncommonly optimistic note. They tell of the Russians confidently preparing for a vigorous spring campaign. A large number of industries have been evacuated from regions occupied by the Nazis and have been moved to prepared sites east of the Volga River. All previous estimates of Russian productive capacity next year, this report says, must be drastically revised upward. The industrial machinery that has been salvaged, together with new plants now being rushed to completion, the report concludes, is such that by next June the Soviets will have made up for all their losses.

Saburo Kurusu

Japan's special envoy to the United States, now in almost daily conference with State Department officials, is Saburo Kurusu, one of his country's ranking diplomats. Kurusu is a skilled negotiator, speaks English fluently, and belongs to that "moderate" group in Tokyo which seeks to avoid an outright clash with the United States.

He has been in the diplomatic service for over 30 years. His acquaintance with the United States dates back to 1910 when he was appointed to a consular post in New York City. Subsequently he served in Chicago, Honolulu, and Manila.

Japan joined the Axis while Kurusu was ambassador to Berlin and it is said that he signed the agreement with some reluctance. This fact is being stressed in Tokyo as an indication of Japan's desire to come to terms with the United States. As one who is lukewarm toward the Axis, it is said, Kurusu will enjoy the confidence of American officials.

PLANNING FOR PEACE

(Concluded from page 1)

speedily to conclusions, declaring that this or that plan is the proper solution of the problems of peace and stability. The first step is to gain information; to study the conditions which prevail in the various parts of the world; to find out



ACME
SABURO KURUSU, Japanese envoy, is one of Japan's most skillful diplomats. All his ability is being called into play in the current negotiations with the United States.

what has hindered peace and security and what the problems of progress are. The same studies should be made with respect to the problems of our own country.

To assist you in getting these studies under way, we are writing this week in THE AMERICAN OBSERVER, the *Weekly News Review* and *The Junior Review* about the problem of restoring peace and security to our nation and the world. This article undertakes to locate some of the problems and issues which require study and thought. In later articles we shall take up some of these separate issues, outlining each in greater detail.

At this time we call upon our readers to begin at once the task of finding out what needs to be done to preserve and improve our civilization, and to lay the basis of an enduring peace. Don't spend too much of your time on trivialities at one of the most dramatic and critical periods of human history. Give thought and attention to the events of the great wars which are being waged. You need not turn your eyes from the mighty drama which is unfolding. But remember that in the midst of destruction there must be construction. As we plan for war we must also plan for peace. And the time to begin has come.

Pronunciations

Chengtu—cheng'doo'
Pedro Aguirre Cerda—pay'droe ah-gee'-reh sair'dah—g as in go
Kuibyshev—koo'ee-beh-sheff'
Saburo Kurusu—sah-boo'roe koo-roo'soo
Szechwan—su'chhwahn'



ACME
KUIBYSHEV, the temporary Russian capital on the banks of the Volga, has become a boom town. The influx of population has been such that all facilities are under severe strain.

Problems of Postwar Era

(Concluded from page 1)

closes will undoubtedly be one of relief on a scale hitherto unknown. There cannot be order and stability until the people of Europe are relieved of hunger. Starving people will not be reasonable. What forces of disorder may develop in famine-ridden lands, no man can predict.

The job of feeding the hungry of Europe and Asia cannot be done

A tremendous job of physical reconstruction will have to be done. Factories, railways, roads, canals, public buildings, apartments—all these must be rebuilt and arrangements must be made whereby they shall be operated or occupied by men and women who will be scattered widely or huddled, half-starved, in refugee camps.

What part, if any, will the United States play in this work of restoration? How much money will we put up? How will we get it? What will happen if we do not take part in this work? Will the work of reconstruction be done without our aid?

But how can that greater freedom of trade be brought about? If a little nation is afraid that it will be attacked from the outside, it tries to build up its own industries at the expense of industries outside its borders. It feels that it must produce all the materials necessary to carry on a war and to feed its people even though it may be blockaded. This fear leads it to build trade walls about itself. These walls will be lowered, of course, as confidence is restored in place of fear, and when the little nations are no longer afraid of attack.

But how can that confidence be

after a while the nations that defeated them would probably be caught napping. Then rearmament would come, and the war would have to be fought over again. That is what happened after the first World War.

Raw Materials

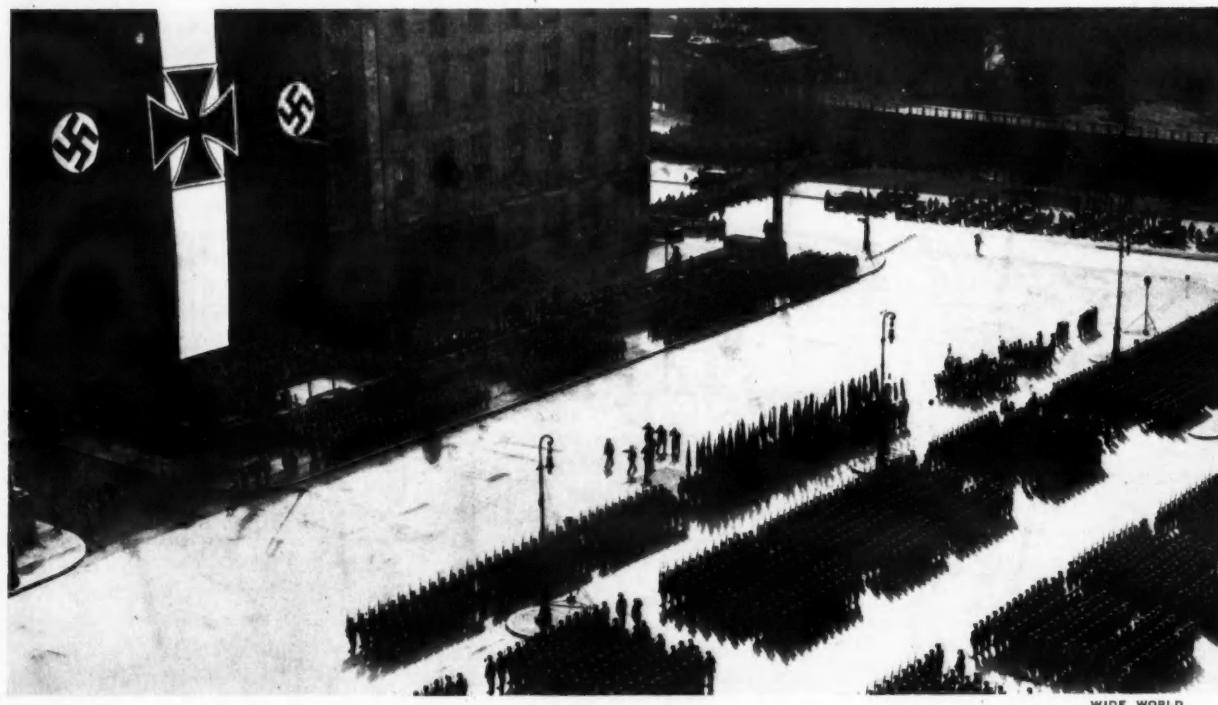
The world must grapple with many problems as it sets out to establish fair and just conditions so that no people will have strong motives for fighting. For one thing, every nation must be assured that it can get the raw materials needed for its industries. The people of every country feel very deeply about that. We in the United States could not rest easy if the Japanese should seize the Dutch East Indies and the Straits Settlements and have the world's rubber supply.

But rubber is only one of the essential materials. Just as we have no rubber within our borders, some of the great nations have no oil. Others have no iron and coal. Some have no copper. Some have no cotton. And so it goes. Other people are just as sensitive and as cautious as we are. Nowhere can peoples feel a sense of security unless they are made to understand that one nation will not get a monopoly on any of the essential raw materials.

But how are we to be sure that we can get rubber when we need it, without having it so closely controlled by ourselves or friendly powers like England or Holland? And, in that case, how are nations like Germany and Japan and Russia and France to be sure that they can get rubber when they need it? This same kind of problem applies to every one of the 20 or more raw materials which are essential to industry.

Answers cannot easily be given to any of these questions. Each one of them requires study and thought. That is why we will carry a number of articles in this paper during the remainder of the school year on different phases of the problem of establishing peace and stability in the world.

Some of our articles will deal with such problems as have been mentioned in this introductory article; problems of restoration and organization among the nations. Other of our articles will deal especially with problems of our own country which must be dealt with if there is to be security and prosperity here.



What should be done about the problem of Germany's military power in the postwar years?

wholly by the United States, even though this country will no doubt, at the end of the war, be by far the richest of nations. But what part will we play; how far will we go in feeding the hungry? Prominent officials in our government tell us that we must soon be spending over three billion dollars a month in order to build our defenses and help defeat Germany. Our purpose in doing this is to overcome disorder in the world. Will we be obliged to continue to spend money even if Hitler is defeated? Will that be part of the job of establishing peace and order in the world on a secure basis? We do not mean to suggest the answer by asking this question. We introduce the question merely in order that it may be carefully studied.

Restoring Order

But more must be done in Europe at the close of the war than merely to feed people who are hungry. These people must be put on their own feet. They must be got back into jobs of one kind or another. That will be a task almost unbelievably difficult. Millions of people have been driven away from their farms. How are they to be got back? Who is to decide what patches of land the different farm families shall have? The farms will have been stripped of implements and machinery. In many cases the buildings will have been burned. Who will restore them so that the work of plowing and sowing crops and of pasturing stock can start again?

Factories have been destroyed and workers have been driven away from them. How will the factories be rebuilt and how will jobs be allotted to the unemployed?

and will it be done quickly enough so as to get people back into the normal ways of life before they break out into revolution and expeditions of destruction?

Disease and Malnutrition

Disease will be an important problem. It nearly always follows in the wake of war. It goes along with hunger and malnutrition. It springs from insanitary conditions such as the homeless, war-plagued peoples of Europe are experiencing. Who will furnish the doctors, the nurses, the medicine, the hospital care? Will a truly great effort of reconstruction go on—an effort comparable in extent and cost to the military effort now being made?

But there are still other angles to the postwar problems. It will not be enough merely to feed hungry people; to get them back on farms and in factories; to heal their wounds and mend their bodies and stop the ravages of disease. In order that there may be stability in the world, these millions must have a normal economic life. When they get to producing goods again, they must be able to sell their products. To do this, there must be trade and commerce. It must extend across national lines. If all of the little nations which have been conquered are restored to their independence, they must not build high tariff walls about themselves so that no one can ship goods in from the outside. Governments must not establish "quotas"; that is, they must not say, "We will take just so much of goods from our neighboring countries and no more." There must be greater freedom of trade than there was during the years before the war started.

restored? Will it come back if all the nations unite in a league and if all of them agree to go together and fight against anyone who in the future disturbs the peace? Will it be restored if groups of nations in the different regions form themselves into groups—if, for instance, the Balkan countries all go together in a confederation, and if the Scandinavian countries form another confederation, and the southwestern countries, possibly France, Belgium, and Italy form themselves into another group? These are among the possibilities which are being suggested.

What About Germany?

This problem of restoring confidence and of establishing security against the outbreak of war will be a very tough one. Immediately following the war, it is quite possible that England and the United States (provided Germany is defeated) may undertake to insure peace by forcing Germany to disarm. If the Germans lose the war, they can be disarmed. The victor nations could, for a while, see to it that Germany did not build tanks, airplanes, and submarines. If she did not have these great fighting machines, she could not start another war. And it is quite likely that no other nation would, for some time, have the power and ambition to set out on a war of extended conquest.

But a plan of that kind, a plan by which one nation is disarmed while others remain armed, would probably be no more than temporary. If there is to be permanent peace, people all over the world must be given a sense of security. If the Germans, after the war, felt that they were being unjustly treated, they would watch for a chance to rearm and

Something to Think About

Settlement of Disputes

- How does the machinery for the settlement of strikes during the present emergency compare with that which existed during the World War?
- What are the functions of the Conciliation Service of the Department of Labor?
- How does the National Defense Mediation Board deal with industrial disputes?
- What is compulsory arbitration and what are the main arguments for and against it?

Planning for Peace

- What is meant by the statement, "win the war and lose the peace"?
- Name some of the more immediate problems of postwar planning.
- Why does the problem of Germany loom so large in all postwar plans?
- What are some of the steps that must be taken in order to restore confidence to Europe after the war?

Strike Problem Debated

(Concluded from page 1)

In our article last week, we discussed a few of the major causes of industrial disputes. This week, we shall consider the machinery already in existence for the settlement of such disputes and then turn to the problem of whether additional machinery is necessary or whether the emergency calls for legislation dealing specifically with the problem of strikes in defense industries.

It must be pointed out that whenever a dispute arises in an important industry, the wheels of the federal machinery start moving in an attempt to settle it before a strike results. The Conciliation Service of the Department of Labor is the agency which first moves. It has a staff of 100 conciliators who undertake to effect a settlement.

When a dispute arises, one of these conciliators goes to the scene of trouble and arranges conferences between the employer and representatives of the union. Frequently these sessions are informal. The conciliator merely acts as an outsider who is offering his services to help get at the facts and iron out the difficulties.

Sometimes the conciliator will make recommendations for a settlement of the dispute, but neither the employer nor the union is obliged to accept these recommendations.



The face at the window

Even though the Conciliation Service has no authority to force a settlement, its record of accomplishment is impressive, indeed. During 1940, it handled nearly 2,000 disputes involving more than one million workers, and it settled 19 out of every 20 of them.

Mediation Board

With the defense program growing ever more important, it was felt that additional machinery was needed and accordingly President Roosevelt appointed the National Defense Mediation Board last March. This board consists of 11 members, including the chairman. Three members of the board represent the general public, three the employers, two the American Federation of Labor, and two the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the eleventh member being the chairman.

The captive coal mine dispute was turned over to the National Defense Mediation Board which voted, nine to two, against granting the demands of the union for a closed shop. The two members who opposed the decision were members of the CIO and officers of the United Mine Workers of America, the union involved

in the dispute. What effect these resignations will have upon the future effectiveness of the board remains to be determined. Failure of the CIO to support its decisions may have a crippling effect. The board may be given greater authority in the future.

At present, the NDMB has no power to enforce its decisions. Its function is to attempt to effect a settlement of disputes involving defense industries. It does not automatically step in when disputes arise. Rather, it must wait until the secretary of labor has "certified" a dispute which the Conciliation Service has been unable to settle.

When the board receives a case, it usually appoints a panel of at least three members to hear both sides. It then makes its recommendations, but it has no authority to force the employers or the union to accept its decisions. It relies chiefly upon the weight of public opinion to insure acceptance of its proposals.

President's Power

If the Mediation Board fails to effect a settlement, there is still another step which the government may take. The President of the United States may seize and operate the plant—a course which has already been taken in a number of instances. Employers are then compelled to accept the decision of the Mediation Board, for they have no way of resisting the government.

But what if the workers refuse to accept the decision? This is a more difficult problem because workers have the legal right to refuse to work in a plant, even though it is operated by the government. There are other ways, however, by which the government may break a strike. It may bring in outside workers and use the Army, if necessary, to protect them. The government also has the power to draft all strikers, of proper age, who have been deferred from service because they were working in defense industries.

A plan very similar to this was in effect during the first World War. There was at that time a War Labor Board which investigated disputes and made recommendations as to how they should be settled. This board, like the present NDMB, had no power to enforce its decisions. But the government then, as now, has the power to seize plants as well



Out of the frying pan
RUSSELL IN LOS ANGELES TIMES



THE NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDIATION BOARD, as it met to consider the case of the captive coal mines. In the left foreground, Philip Murray, president of the CIO, is seated. Behind him is John L. Lewis.

as to draft workers, and these weapons usually were adequate to force both sides to accept the decisions of the board. While there were strikes all during the war, the more dangerous ones were prevented or quickly settled.

Many people, in Congress and throughout the country, have expressed doubts as to the effectiveness of the present machinery to deal with industrial disputes. There are demands which go so far as to seek legislation making strikes illegal. There are more moderate demands—principally for legislation to force both employers and workers engaged in disputes to take their cases to a government labor board whose decision would be final. This is known as compulsory arbitration.

Those who call for rigid legislation contend that the whole defense program is endangered by stoppage of work in vital industries and that the national emergency calls for other than ordinary means of settlement of labor controversies. They point to the fact that hundreds of thousands of young men are obliged to serve in the Army for as little as \$21 a month, and that it is absurd to permit men engaged in the output of necessary supplies for the Army and Navy to walk out and stop production.

Opponents of antistrike legislation contend that there is a vast difference between service in the Army and work in industrial plants. The soldiers are working for the government and for the nation as a whole, whereas industrial workers are employed by private concerns which operate for private profit. If workers are denied the right to strike, it is argued, they will be helpless and compelled to accept whatever wages and other working conditions employers choose to give them.

Compulsory Arbitration

Most fair-minded students of the problem will agree that the workers need protection against unfair working conditions, and for that reason many of them favor the compulsory arbitration idea. Such a plan would keep the National Defense Mediation Board, or a similar agency, but would provide that whenever it made a decision, both parties to the dispute—the companies and the unions—should be compelled to abide by the decisions of the board.

Legislation of that kind would be more drastic than any which has been enacted by the federal government up to this time. It would also be more drastic than the machinery which has been set up in Canada or

England for the settlement of industrial disputes.

In Canada, there is a national mediation board which makes recommendations in the case of disputes. Employers or workers cannot shut down a plant until this board has studied the dispute and given its recommendations for a settlement. Its decision, though, is not binding. Public opinion, together with reasonableness on the part of workers and employers, plays a big role in supporting the board's decision.

In England, it is still legal to strike, and there were a few strikes even during the period of England's gravest danger. There is machinery, however, whereby the unions, the employers, and the government can get together and discuss their difficulties, and in most cases settlements are reached.

There is naturally a greater willingness to cooperate and to make individual sacrifices among people at war than among people who are not actually involved in armed conflict.

As yet, the United States has hesitated to take the drastic action recommended by many members of Congress. One thing seems fairly certain: If no other way can be found to settle the industrial disputes which threaten the defense program, strong action will be taken. Both the President and Congress have expressed a determination to see the defense program move forward efficiently and uninterruptedly.

* * * *

We have failed to mention the National Labor Relations Board in this article because it is not directly concerned with the settlement of industrial disputes. Its main function is to see that employers do not interfere with the right of workers to join unions if they choose to do so and also to see that employers negotiate, or "bargain collectively" with the workers through their unions. Whenever requested, the NLRB holds elections within a plant or industry to determine which union the majority of workers want to represent them in dealing with employers.

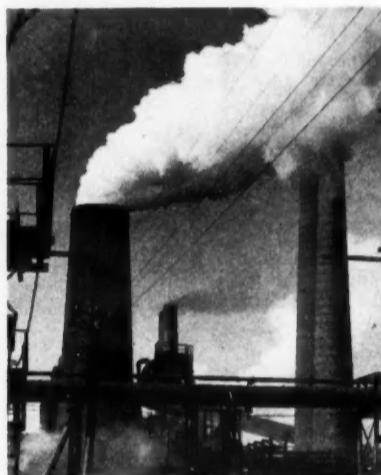
Occasionally, after the NLRB has held an election, the defeated union becomes angered and calls a strike. That is what is known as a jurisdictional dispute, discussed in last week's issue of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.

Such a strike, as all other types of strikes, is not handled by the National Labor Relations Board, but is turned over to the other agencies which have been set up for the settlement of labor disputes.

THE importance of continued Russian resistance cannot be over-emphasized. So long as the eastern front is maintained, Hitler's armies cannot be used for an assault on the British Isles. How long that front can hold no one knows with certainty. The New York Times, in a recent editorial, calls for realistic thinking on the subject of the Russian front and points to certain weaknesses in that sector:

As matters stand, too much emphasis has been placed upon what we should like to do and not enough upon what conditions beyond our control will permit us and the Russians to do. If wishes were horses, beggars might ride. Unfortunately, all the sympathy, all the good will in the world cannot restore to Russia the resources and industries she has lost, nor can harbors and railroads be conjured into being by wishing they were there...

No army can continue to wage war effectively today without vast quantities of machinery and oil. There is no sense in blinking at the fact that the German advance into Russia has crippled Russia's industrial capacity to



SOVPHOTO
A chemical coke plant of the Stalin metallurgical works

supply her armies with planes, tanks, and guns or that it has endangered the oil supplies without which her armies would soon be immobilized and helpless.

The Times goes on to point to the difficulties of America's and Britain's supplying Russia with needed supplies:

Even if our own production can be stepped up in time to affect the outcome of the struggle now raging on the plains of Russia, our ability to deliver the machines and oil on the fighting front is limited by shipping tonnage and the port facilities of the Soviets themselves... The truth is that our ability to help Russia has geographical limitations and that the effectiveness of what assistance we can give and deliver depends upon Russia's ability to help herself in the immediate future.

Allies' Opportunity

Nazi Propaganda Minister Goebbels recently told the German people, in a magazine article, that the Axis powers are fighting for their very existence and warned: "The worries and distress which we all must bear in the war would pale in the face of the inferno which would face us if we were to lose." This appeal to fear, writes Joseph C. Harsch in the *Christian Science Monitor*, offers the Allies an opportunity to win the support of the German people. He writes:

That Dr. Goebbels must resort to this line means that he wants to get them into a sort of "backs to the wall" mood. It also suggests how tremendously important it is for the Allies to develop more concrete plans for a better world after the war is over. And it suggests the key to the breaking

News and Comment

of the German will to fight. If the Allies will produce a blueprint for a better world, it will be as important as armies in breaking the Nazi grip on the minds of the Germans... It is up to the Allied strategists to prove that Hitler's defeat will be better for Germans than Hitler's victory. When fear of defeat is the only thing a German has left to fight for; then the time is ripe to begin showing them that they should not fear defeat, but should rather welcome it.

Cryptographer's Special

President's embargo ruling should have immediate notice. Grave situation affecting international law. Statement foreshadows ruin of many neutrals. Yellow journals unifying national excitement immensely.

This seemingly harmless news dispatch is actually a simple form of cipher, or code, as you will see if you read only the first letters. It was caught by the British during the World War. Most codes used by spies are by no means this easy, as is shown by a recent article appearing in the *Christian Science Monitor*:

An American counterespionage agent actually... attended the special school for spies in... Hamburg, Germany. There he was taught how to make and decode German secret messages; how to handle a camera; how to operate a radio, and how to make the tiny microphotographs which convert bulky documents into a package small enough to be carried in the back of a watch case.

German agents gave the spy a copy of Rachel Field's *All This and Heaven Too*—an English best-seller novel and this was the key to the coding and decoding of messages by which he was to keep in touch with the Hamburg headquarters. The formula was complicated. The first step was to add the number of the day of the month to the number of the month of the year. The sum stood for a page in the novel. On that page of the novel, with the aid of numbers and squares, he could find the answer to the apparently innocent messages he had received.

In the World War, the British laid hands on the master code book of the German navy by sending a diver down to prowl through the cabins of a sunken warship. The British kept their knowledge secret, and for months they deciphered German naval intelligence with the ease of a secretary transcribing shorthand.

President's Library

When the true chronicle of our strange day finally comes to be written a good deal of light on it will be found between a flower garden and a cornfield in the Hudson River Valley. Historians will go there to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park. They will find a wealth of important records in the President's papers and others that may be added later...

So writes Charles Poore in the *New York Times Magazine*. He says that the library was built through popular subscription at no cost to



w.w.
The Roosevelt Library in Hyde Park

the government, and is now a government agency under direction of the archivist of the United States. Its exhibition rooms containing an enormous collection of Rooseveltiana have been open since July. Mr. Poore continues:

The Roosevelt collection is amazingly comprehensive. Ever since he first entered public life as a New York state senator in 1910 Mr. Roosevelt has carefully preserved all his letters, his papers, his pamphlets, and his books. He has also kept copies of practically all outgoing correspondence, so that historians will find a consecutive and full record of how policies with far-reaching results were evolved, and the steps and considerations that led to momentous events in our history. Eventually... the library will hold some 6,000,000 manuscripts.

Main categories of the collection cover three decades. Earliest are the state senate papers, 1910-13. Among them historians may discover the first inklings of principles that were later to show in the architecture of the New Deal. Then come Mr. Roosevelt's papers during the seven following years when he was assistant secretary of the navy, which will throw light on our part in the first World War.... There are the files of the years when Mr. Roosevelt was governor of New York, 1929-33, and, most important of all, the presidential papers after March 4, 1933, which will eventually include all his years in the White House.

The Criminal Loses

"Crime does not pay!" is an axiom that has almost become trite from being repeated so often. That it is still essentially true is well illustrated by Channing Pollock, the famous dramatist, writing in *This Week* magazine:

The other day, while buried deep in a newspaper story of a park planned for New York, I stumbled across a curious item: Many years ago, Arnold Rothstein, the gambler whose murder was a metropolitan sensation in 1928, acquired several hundred acres of swamp land which he expected to sell to the city. On this land he erected a number of houses, not to be lived in, but as an excuse for boosting his price. The flimsy buildings were set upon posts that, in turn, were set upon a few bricks, because digging post holes would have been more expensive.

The proposed sale wasn't made, and eventually New York took over the property for unpaid taxes. Working on drainage, municipal engineers unearthed peat moss, the humus used in gardening and agriculture. The peat moss brought more than half a million dollars. If Rothstein had devoted a fractional part of the ingenuity and industry of his attempted swindle to digging one honest post hole for one honest house, he would have made many times the profit he failed to make by fraud.

We have 5,000,000 criminals in the United States, who cost us \$15,000,000 a year—but that doesn't include the cost to the criminals. I know a confidence man to whom I once demonstrated this with his own figures. Unusually intelligent and capable, at the age of 70 my friend finds himself destitute. I asked him, "Do you think you could have averaged \$40 a week in a trade or profession? If so, the time you have spent in various lockups has cost you nearly \$50,000—not

NEW U. S. FOOD-FOR-DEFENSE BUDGET		
	NORMAL YEARLY PRODUCTION IN U. S.	1942 QUOTA
MILK (Billions Of Pounds)	106.6	125
EGGS (Billions Of Dozens)	3.4	4
HOGS (Millions Slaughtered)	63.2	79.3
CATTLE-CALVES (Millions Slaughtered)	24.8	28
PEANUTS (Millions Of Acres)	1.7	3.5
SOYBEANS (Millions Of Acres)	3.4	7
FARM GARDENS (Millions Of Acres)	4	5.8
CANNED FRUITS (Millions Of Cases)	28.3	33
CHICKENS (Millions Slaughtered)	644	750
OATS (Millions Of Acres)	36	40

Estimated by U. S. Department of Agriculture

counting what you've spent trying to keep out of them."

Food to Spare

Because the summer harvests this year were the largest in history, and since the fall and winter food output promises to top all records, Department of Agriculture spokesmen are confidently predicting that we will be able to produce throughout the emergency enough food for our own use, for Great Britain, and some to spare.

A "food-for-freedom" campaign is now under way, which calls for increased production in 1942 of a number of basic foodstuffs, as is shown in the accompanying chart. This campaign does not apply, however, to wheat and cotton, for the United States now has on hand a two years' supply of both commodities, and it is felt desirable to curtail acreage of these basic crops next year.



National Health

Many Americans have been alarmed by the high percentage of men rejected by draft boards for physical reasons. A recent article in the *Baltimore Evening Sun*, however, makes it clear that the rejection percentage is no index of the state of public health. The article is by a Baltimore surgeon, Dr. Amos R. Koontz, who is now a lieutenant colonel in the Army Medical Corps and medical director of the Maryland Selective Service System.

Colonel Koontz points out that, because relatively few men have been needed so far, the Army has skimmed only the cream off the top. A large number of the men rejected are actually fit for limited military service and may be called up if the Army is greatly expanded. Many of those disqualified enjoy excellent health. They have been rejected because they are a little near-sighted, or because they have defects which can be remedied easily, or because their teeth are slightly below the minimum requirement for Class I-A. Says Colonel Koontz:

If the total percentage of rejections appears greater now than it was in 1917, it is for the following reasons: (1) the physical examinations are much more rigid; (2) the standards for acceptance are higher; and (3) up to July 1 of this year the age group of those examined included older men (21 to 36) than those examined in 1917.